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SUBJECT Warships Under Construction at the Baltic
Shipyard in Leningrad

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1. Concrete work on slip A was completed during the period from July 1949 to December 1949. Three launching ways were constructed. Their planking consisted of two layers of oak. The upper layer was built of 10 parallel planks, each about 150 mm wide, the total width being approximately 1.5 to 2 meters. (1)
2. The remainder of a battleship which lay on slip A had a flat bottom and was sealed off by wooden boards toward the stern. Its outer plating bulged outward considerably. Two cylindrical, circular bulges, wall thickness about 10 to 12 mm, were connected on the inside with the skin plating in a frame-like manner about 2 meters apart. A double bottom extended between the lower edges of the blisters. Its height was vaguely estimated by source at between 100 and 300 mm. The wall thickness of the inner bottom was considerably smaller. A flat deck, 40 to 50 mm thick, extended between the upper edges of the blisters. Relatively strong walls were fitted on the two sides. Above the blisters, the ship's sides were flared slightly. Two other decks, about 2 meters apart, were fitted above the thick deck. They were 15 mm thick. The upper one was the upper deck of the ship. The total height was estimated at between 6 and 7 meters. (2)
3. The whole ship was still on the slip in 1946. Its forward and after section were broken off in late 1948 or early 1949. The original stern was not pointed and did overhang noticeably. No reconstruction was observed till 7 December 1949; however, stocks for the bow section were prepared, and finished components were kept ready.
4. A newly built cruiser left the western slip a few hours earlier than scheduled on Revolution Day in 1948. She was later lying beside the eastern slip alongside the outfitting quay. Four or six heavy guns were seen being installed when source was doing repair work to the quay in August and September 1949. The barrels of the gun were about 8 to 10 meters long and had two barrel-jacket sections. They were fitted with screw-wedge breech blocks. Their caliber was 172 mm. Gun platform and fire control positions were completely assembled and had a coating of red lead in December 1949. (3)

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5. Vessels moored on the Neva River, downstream from the Lieutenant Shmidt Bridge,

included a large number of small vessels; the cruiser Avron was one particularly large ship, allegedly a damaged former German vessel, in the turrets of which the stumps of blasted heavy guns could still be seen. The Luetzow and the newly-built cruiser.

6. The Luetzow was permanently moored at the quay and was being cannibalized. Her machinery and interior fittings were taken to the store dump on Kossaya street. Source thought that the ship was eventually broken up. The name Luetzow was mentioned by [] naval veterans. (4)
7. A ship, the Chapayev, was put into commission and subsequently proceeded to sea in the fall of 1949.
8. Twin guns mounted on platforms were seen on a ship in commission, lying beside the quay, and on other commissioned vessels. In gun drill, they moved in such a manner as though to counterbalance the motions of the ship in seaway. They were mounted fairly high above the deck and pivoted on trunnions. (5)
9. Twin guns were also kept ready beside the quay for installation in the cruiser being outfitted. This ship had two superimposed triple turrets at one end and one triple turret at the other. [] the guns had a caliber of between 150 and 180 mm. (6)

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[] Comments.

- (1) The completion of slip A is known from previous information.
- (2) The information concerning the structural data of the battleship was received for the first time. The data indicate that the underwater protection is similar to that of the Italian 35,000-ton battleships of the Littorio Class. The height of the double bottom is believed to be underestimated considerably and will most probably be 1.2 or 1.5 meters, or even more, considering that the latest types of battleships, such as the aforementioned Italian ships, are usually fitted with triple bottoms which necessarily require an even greater height. The total height of the ship was also underestimated and is believed to be not less than 12 or 13 meters high or more. Accordingly, the height of the space below the armored deck will be not less than 6.5 to 7 meters. The designed draft of the ship will be so deep that the upper edge of the blisters touches the waterline. The data on the thickness of the various sheets and plates seem to correspond to the other dimensions. [] estimated the length of the cut-off bow section to be 150 meters and that of the stern section to be 80 meters. This, however, is probably overestimated 25 percent since the overall length is believed to be not more than 230 or 240 meters.
- (3) The barrels are believed to be 180-mm barrels and their length to be 55 times the caliber.
- (4) These statements tend to confirm other reports which, though less definitely, stated that the Luetzow, formerly the Deutschland, was raised and towed to Leningrad.
- (5) The AA guns are believed to be stabilized guns.
- (6) If not the Chapayev this newly built cruiser probably is a sistership of, or a type similar to, the Chapayev.

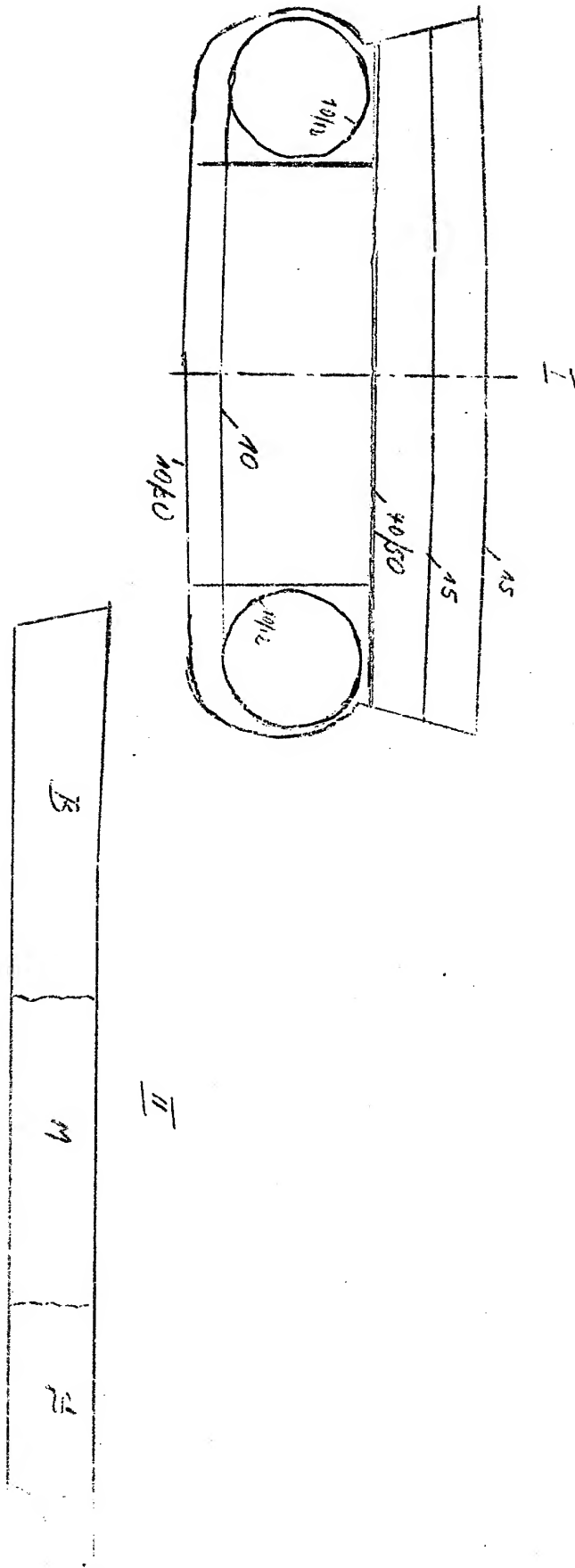
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Annex: Sketches of Sections of New Battleship at the Baltic Shipyard in Leningrad with Legend.

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New Battleship at the Baltic Shipyard in Leningrad.

Annex

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- I Sectional view of battleship under construction.
- II Sketch showing cut-off bow and stern sections of battleship.
 - B Bow section (about twice as long as the cut-off stern section)
 - M Remaining middle section
 - S Broken-off stern section.

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